SYNCHRONIZE NETWORK DELIVERY
Joint Interoperability Test Certification
"Foundation of Net Centric Operations & Future Joint Warfighting"

The Military Communications-Electronics Board (MCEB) Interoperability Panel (IP) provides oversight of C4 interoperability, focusing on policy and procedural issues including DOD interoperability guidance and directives, architectures, technical, operational and procedural standards, and data standardization.

The Interoperability Test Panel (ITP) promotes, enhances, and maintains comparability and interoperability of Information Technology (IT) and National Security Systems (NSS) through a formal process that identifies and resolves critical IT/NSS interoperability testing policies and test issues. The ITP is also responsible for interoperability and supportability certification, and system validation by the Joint Staff J6 and Joint Interoperability test Command (JITC). The ITP's main concern is lack of joint interoperability certification that impedes warfighter mission accomplishment, introduces risk to the Global Information Grid (GIG), and disrupts the DOD 5000 acquisition process.

Approximately 25-28 percent of IT/NSS systems are interoperability certified. Lack of certification is primarily due to the lack of JS approved requirements documentation for the individual IT/NSS. Multiple initiatives implemented to resolve lack of certification include Interim Certificate to Operate (ICTO), Tailored Information Support Plans (TISP), Legacy System Waiver Designation, Interoperability Test Exemption, and Delinquent Program designation. ITP grants a temporary reprieve (ICTO) to allow fielded systems to obtain full interoperability, supportability certification.

Any non-certified operational system that touches the GIG requires an ICTO if not fully certified. TISP and Legacy designation are established by ASD (NII) DOD CIO ISP Acquisition Pilot Streamlining Program memorandum, 25 Aug 2005. TISP focus on non-ACAT, current force and rapid acquisition efforts. This decreases DOD Architecture Framework (DODAF) architectures from approximately 12 to 4 with 2 optional architectures, with an approximate savings of $30K per system. Legacy designation identifies fielded programs no longer requiring interoperability certification that meet four conditions: no longer have funding; follow-on system in development; retiring within 5 years; and have no interoperability issues.

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